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REPORT
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SOVIET COMBINES, DITCHERS CRITICIZED; PLANTS FAIL TO FULFILL PLANS

ASK FOR BETTER AGRICULTURAL MACHINES -- Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 11 Nov 53

The personnel of an MTS in Nemirovskiy Rayon, Vinnitskaya Oblast, is drawing the attention of Soviet agricultural machine builders to some of the defects in agricultural machines used by the MTS.

The MTS has ten S-4 self-propelled combines produced by the Taganrog Combine Plant imeni Stalin. The frame under the gearbox of the ricker on these combines is too weak and often breaks and has to be repaired. The MTS replaced all the frames supplied by the plant with stronger frames. Now the combines do not give any trouble.

The S-4 combine should be equipped with a unit for plowing under the stubble.

It would be a great improvement for combines in general if designers would develop a straw baler to replace the sweep rake and add a third cleaning unit for grain so that the grain cleaning task can be completely done by the combine.

The MIS received two KF-30 ditch diggers made by the Stalino [Agricultural] Machine Building Plant. KF-30 ditch diggers are excellent in every respect, but both machines shipped to the MIS had frames which were made of defective metal. The frame, part designation KFR-332, of one ditch digger broke after 3 hours of work; the frame of the other broke after 30 hours of work.

The KU-2 corn harvesting combine produced by the Taganrog Combine Plant harvests corn, separates corn ears from the stalk, and chops stalks for forage. The separating unit leaves 20-25 percent of corn ears on the stalk, which are chopped with the stalks. The design of the separating unit should be improved.

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The SKEM-3 beet harvesting combine produced by the Dnepropetrovsk Plant imeni K. Ye. Voroshilov should be redesigned for harvesting beets of any size to stop losses of small beets.

A fertilizer spreading unit for plowing sugar-beet fields is needed.

PLANT FAILS TO FULFILL PRODUCTION PLAN -- Tashkent, Pravda Vostoka, 17 Nov 53

The Andizhan Avtotraktorodetal' (Motor Vehicle and Tractor Parts) Plant produces equipment for MIS and cotton-cleaning enterprises of Central Asia and the Kazakh SSR.

In 1952, the plant did not fulfill its production plan; in 10 months of 1953, the plant's production record has been worse. The quality of the output is poor. Losses from rejects are increasing each month. Chief engineer, Kipnis blames the shortcomings at the plant on auxiliary plants. Supplying plants are only partially responsible for the poor work at the plant. Serious mistakes in planning, lack of a personnel training program, and failure to introduce socialist competition are the basic reasons for shortcomings.

The plant is equipped with modern machines, but distribution of labor, technical processes, and control of output are not organized.

The plant was assigned the production of PG-40 pumps used in land irrigation. Drawings for the pump were prepared and plant equipment and tools were properly set up. However, the plant did not fulfill its production plan for PG-40 pumps because of a high percentage of rejects by the machine shop and the foundry.

All plant shops produce 40-50 percent of their monthly output during the first 20 days of a month; the rest of the output is done by speed-up methods in the last 10 days of a month. Such methods contribute to the production of poor-quality work.

Experienced workers are not used to guide and teach inexperienced workers. In 1952, the plant has trained only 14 lathe operators.

Socialist competition is only a formality. Quotas are set and pledges are made, but no attention is paid to the results.

LARGE FARM-MACHINE-BUILDING PLANTS FAIL TO MEET PLANS -- Tashkent, Pravda Vostoka, 19 Nov 53

Uzbek SSR machine-building plants have successfully completed production plans for the first 10 months of 1953.

However, such large Tashkent plants as the Tashsel'mash Agricultural Machine Building Plant, the Uzbeksel'mash Agricultural Machine Building Plant, and the Tashkhlopkomash Cotton Machinery Plant have not fulfilled their production plans.

PLANT PRODUCES UNNEEDED AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT -- Vil'nyus, Sovetskaya Litva, 22 Oct 53

B. Ionochkin, Director of the Kaunas Prekalas Plant, states that the plant has 64,000 shares for horse-drawn plows, 40,000 shares for tractor-drawn plows, more than 2,000 hammers, 5,500 tools for whetting scythes, and many other items in its warehouses. The plant cannot dispose of these items because consumers have no need for them. The plant has 700,000 rubles of its capital tied up in these parts.

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Poor planning by Golyashevich, who is in charge of the Local Industry Division of Gosplan Lithuanian SSR, is to blame for the overproduction of unneeded items.

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